# **PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE

# BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

#### MUTANDA ORNITHOLOGICA.

IX.

#### BY HARRY C. OBERHOLSER.

Further notes<sup>1</sup> on untenable names of birds are furnished below. These refer to species in the families Corvidae, Motacillidae, Sylviidae, Turdoididae, and Timaliidae.

#### FAMILY CORVIDAE.

## Dendrocitta sinensis (Latham).

The name *Dendrocitta sinensis* for a Chinese jay must now be changed, since its basis, *Corvus sinensis* Latham (Index Ornith., I, 1790, p. 161; Macao Island, China), is found to be preoccupied by *Corvus sinensis* Gmelin (Syst. Nat., I, i, 1788, p. 372; China) for another and unidentified species. Since no other name is available for *Dendrocitta sinensis*, we propose to call it **Dendrocitta celadina**, nom. nov.

# FAMILY MOTACILLIDAE. Motacilla longicauda Rüppell.

The name Motacilla longicauda Rüppell (Neue Wirb. Faun. Abyss., Vög., 1835, p. 84, pl. XIX, fig. 2; Province of Simen, Abyssinia), for a well known African wagtail, is untenable on account of the previous Motacilla longicauda Gmelin (Syst. Nat., I, ii, 1789, p. 954, China), a synonym of Sutoria sutoria (Forster). Its only synonym, Motacilla longicaudata Grant and Reid (Ibis, ser. 8, I, No. IV, October, 1901, p. 630; nom. emend. pro Motacilla longicauda Rüppell), is preoccupied by Motacilla longicaudata Hermann (Observ. Zool., 1804, p. 210; no locality). A new specific designation is therefore necessary for Motacilla longicauda Rüppell, and we provide it in Motacilla rhadinura, nom. nov.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For the eight previous articles in this series, cf. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 30, March 31, 1917, pp. 75–76; July 27, 1917, pp. 125–126; ibid., 31, May 16, 1918, pp. 47–49; November 29, 1918, pp. 125–126; ibid., 32, February 14, 1919, pp. 7–8; April 11, 1919, pp. 21–22; June 27, 1919, pp. 127–128; December 31, 1919, pp. 239–240.

#### FAMILY SYLVIIDAE.

## Eremomela flaviventris (Burchell).

The name of the South African warbler now known as *Eremomela flaviventris* is invalidated because it was originally described as *Sylvia flaviventris* Burchell (Trav. South Afr., I, 1822, p. 335, note; Asbestos Mountains, 14 miles north of the Orange River, Griqualand West, South Africa), and because this is preoccupied by *Sylvia flaviventris* Vieillot (Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., XI, 1817, p. 241; Paris, France), which is now relegated to the synonymy of *Phylloscopus trochilus* (Linnaeus). It has apparently no synonym, and we therefore rechristen it **Eremomela griseoflava perimacha**, nom. nov. It is here treated as a subspecies of *Eremomela griseoflava* Heuglin (Journ. f. Ornith., 1862, p. 40), since this name now becomes the earliest one among all the forms of this species and must, therefore, from a nomenclatural standpoint, become the typical race. These subspecies will now stand as follows:

Eremomela griseoflava griseoflava Heuglin.
Eremomela griseoflava abdominalis Reichenow.
Eremomela griseoflava sharpei Reichenow.
Eremomela griseoflava perimacha Oberholser.
Eremomela griseoflava erlangeri Reichenow.
Eremomela griseoflava flavicrissalis Sharpe.

## FAMILY TURDOIDIDAE.

# Crateropus griseus (Gmelin).

The Turdus griseus of Gmelin (Syst. Nat., I, ii, 1769, p. 824; Coromandel Coast, India), which is now in use for an Indian babbling thrush in the combination Crateropus griseus, is preoccupied by Turdus griseus Boddaert (Tabl. Planch. Enlum. d'Hist. Nat., 1783, p. 39; Cayenne), which is now called Microrhopias grisea (Boddaert). Dr. C. W. Richmond has already called attention (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., LIII, August 16, 1917, p. 627) to the fact that the generic name Crateropus Swainson must be superseded by Turdoides Cretzschmar. In view of this and of the fact that Crateropus griseus, lacking synonyms, is in need of a new name, we propose that it be known as Turdoides polioplocamus Oberholser, nom. nov.

#### FAMILY TIMALIIDAE.

# Arrenga cyanea (Horsfield).

This Javan species, the *Turdus cyaneus* of Horsfield (Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond., XIII, May, 1821, p. 149; Java), can no longer be called by its present specific name, because this is ineligible for further use on account of the earlier *Turdus cyaneus* of Müller (Vollständ. Natursyst. Suppl., 1776, p. 145; Cape of Good Hope, southern Africa), applied to some other bird. The next and only other available specific designation appears to be *Pitta glaucina* Temminck (Nouv. Rec. Planch. Col. d'Ois., II, livr. 33, 1823, pl. 194; Java); and the name of this bird, should, therefore, henceforth be *Arrenga glaucina* (Temminck).